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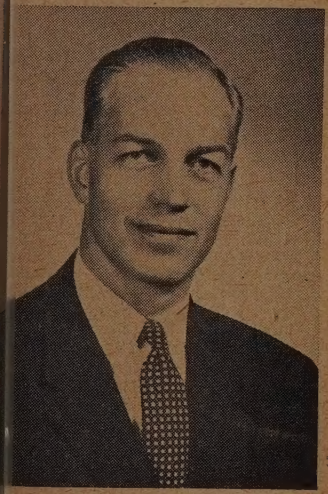


HIS YEAR'S G.A.

By Arthur Peacock

Outstanding personality at this ar's G.A. meetings will un-ubtedly be Dr. Dana Greeley, sident of the American itarian Association. He is to be anniversary preacher and also aker at the Friday morning sion. Members of the English itarian delegation to the Chicago nference of the I.A.R.F. know n well already for he was Chair-n of its planning committee and de, philosopher and friend to ny of the delegates during their .A. stay. As President of the J.A. he took charge of administration at 25, Beacon Street, in May, 1958. Prior to that Dr. Greeley was Minister of Boston's famous Arlington Street Church. This Church has an interesting link with Essex Church where Doctor Greeley is to preach the G.A. sermon. It was at Arlington Street Church that William Emery Channing, when its minister, preached some of his most notable utterances. It was his nephew who was the first minister at Essex Church when that congregation established its worship in Kensington last century.

Outside of his many services to American Unitarianism Dr. Dana Greeley has a fine record in fields of social service. He has served on the Governor of Massachusetts Commission on Capital Punishment, been active in movements for World Federalism and International understanding, and had membership of committees of such different bodies as the Y.M.C.A. Boys' Clubs, Family Planning Foundation, Emerson College and the Boston Rotary Club.

Another guest speaker who is sure to receive a warm welcome is Dr. I. Levy, M.B.E., Chaplain to the Jewish Forces. Dr. Levy is to speak to the resolution dealing with Anti-Semitism which is to be moved at the Wednesday evening session where public issues are to be discussed. Disarmament, Anti-Semitism and Colour Bar problems, Mental Health and Population and Want are the topics for this session. Others participating will include Harold Steele of the Malvern Unitarian Fellowship whose courageous witness for the Pacifist

cause is widely known and respected; and Dr. T. Wrigley, of Peterhouse, Cambridge, son of the late Rev. E. E. Wrigley. Conway Hall should be crowded for this session.

There will be a further opportunity for discussion on some of these issues at the annual meeting of the Social Service Department. At this, Rev. John Rowland is to introduce the recently published report on "World Tensions." For some years now Mr. Rowland has been a familiar figure at the Press table in his capacity as one of the *Inquirer's* team of reporters. This year will be the first time he has addressed one of the meetings in G.A. week. He, too, is a minister with wide interests, and is author of books on such varied topics as science and science fiction, crime and detection, biography. His own autobiography was published a few years back revealing how he came into Unitarianism.

Mr. A. L. Blake, the incoming President, who will be installed in his new office at the annual business meeting is one of the best known laymen in the denomination. He has served on the G.A. Council for a number of years and for long has been one of the pillars of Unitarianism in the West Country. Bristol is sure to miss him a great deal during the next twelve months while he goes the rounds as G.A. President. Congregations will specially welcome him at their services and meetings for he is a man with strong convictions and with definite ideas about the part laymen can play in advancing the Unitarian cause.

Rev. J. Harry Smith who is to be nominated for the Vice-Presidency is a minister with a long record of service and like Rev. Percival Chalk a recent occupier of the Presidential chair, one of the early "Pioneer Preachers." Apart from a short pastorate in London during the 'twenties, Harry Smith has served the cause in the province Accrington, Mexborough, Rothe ham, Swinton, and of course, G Cross, where he has been for te years now, are places where he h given valiant service and won ma friends. When in London yea ago he used to give editorial assis ance to the late Rev. W. G. Tarra at the *Inquirer;* he is a forme President of the Sunday Scho Association and of the Ministeri Fellowship. He is certain to pro in 1961 both an able and a popul President.

UNITARIANS IN THE NEWS

The Rev. John Rowland, Minist of Brighton's Unitarian Church h written a number of biographies eminent people, including Geor Stephenson, Ernest Rutherford, S Alexander Fleming, and Sir Rona Ross. Just published is his late effort in this field, entitl "Ambassador for Oil" (Herbe Jenkins, 21s.) This is the official li of the first Lord Cadman, who w a great scientist and technician the field of oil, and was for son years Chairman of the Angl Iranian Oil Company. The boo has an introduction by Sir Nevil Gass, Chairman of the Briti Petroleum Company, as the Angl Iranian Company of Lord Cadma day has now become. It is a fascina ing picture of the development the oil industry between the tw world wars.

Mr. Mark Vallance, son of t President of the G.A., appeared I.T.V.'s "Activity" in Februa With the son of Jack Langley, demonstrated rock climbing.

After almost seventeen years Altrincham the Rev. A. W. Vallan begins a new ministry at Chest field in June. Mr. Vallance w Editor of the *Unitarian* for thir years and resigned from that po upon becoming President of t General Assembly in 1959.

The Rev. Tom Wardle has accepd a call to be minister at Melourne, Australia. The Rev. L. Redrn has resigned from his ministry Bournemouth and is to retire. he Rev. J. R. Blackburn becomes inister at Plymouth later in the ear. The Rev. L. Hallworth will inducted to the Ministry of Mexrough, on April 2nd, and the Rev. H. Bartlett to the Ministry of ross Street Chapel, Manchester, on pril 9th. The Rev. W. H. Cordell as undertaken pastoral oversight Denton.

OINTERS TO GOD

By Bruce Findlow

We've had a lot of talk of symbols tely much of which has revealed ir traditional indifference to ligious symbols. Fifteen years o, the report "A Free Religious aith" said "our churches' . . . basis freedom makes them free to ange their symbols as the old ase to be helpful as pointers to od and other new ones become vailable in their place, and the hole subject of symbolism in our orship is deserving of more attenon than it generally receives."

I wonder what "pointers to God" ere are in our churches to-day? my own there is no cross, no tar, no chalice; only a table, three airs and a high pulpit with ecorated canopy. The pulpit is early meant to be our one symbol our chief "pointer to God" and leave you to imagine what a sponsibility this places upon the eacher.

At this time of the year I would ce to bring into the church just r a few weeks another symbol—a oss. It is a real religious symbol hich, even when separated from l the theological ideas men have stened to it, points to God as no her Christian symbol does. If, oking at a cross, we are called in me measure to think about the life and death of Jesus as historical events, through the cross and the man, indeed beyond them, we do see something of God. Not God sacrificing himself in the man, not God organising and manipulating the historical event, but God in the proofs of a man's love for truth, a man's devotion to God even unto death.

There is something to be said for looking at the cross of Jesus with some concentration for only a few weeks each year during Lent and Easter. This way it remains a living, ever-renewing symbol. For myself I would like to bring the lasting symbols of other faiths and other festivals into the church for a few weeks each year at their appropriate time.

CHILDREN'S CORNER

The Hero of Sherwood

Raymond is not with us. He was careful to point out last month, if you remember, that he might not be available. So we'll leave him to nurse his gardening wounds and proceed without him. I see that he has not yet mentioned the school play. I must repair the omission.

The play was a version of Robin Hood in which Raymond played the dauntless hero with great enthusiasm. The Lady Marion was played by a fair-haired girl called Alice, whom Raymond didn't like. It is only fair to say that Alice didn't like him either. Lisbeth was the Lady's attendant; the usually silent Alf appeared as the Sheriff of Nottingham; and a lad called Gordon was particularly nasty as Sir Guy of Gisbourne.

The producer, one of the teachers, was soon at work; not so much producing the play as restraining Raymond and thwarting certain of his ambitions.

For instance, he had a splendid idea for the archery tournament involving the brilliant bowman Robin

Hood. The whole cast protested. The tournament *was* held but the archery demonstration took place off-stage, much to Raymond's disgust. He also put forward an idea for the scene in Sherwood. At this point, he thought he would leap from the branches on to Sir Guy who was passing beneath! Sir Guy opposed this strongly and the incident took place in a less spectacular manner.

Raymond's interest waned but returned in full on the night. He leaped and fought mightily all through and worked up to the climax where he captured Sir Guy. Having done so, he peered out into the forest and informed all present that—"Yonder comes the Sheriff of Nottingham."

Raymond waved his arms towards off-stage left and was very much put out when Alf entered cheerfully from off-stage right, behind him!

The audience roared with laughter and a disgusted Raymond afterwards stated that the thing had been completely ruined. But he calmed down when the Lady Marion issued invitations for a celebration tea-party. In the midst of this "smashing" affair, he forgot his disappointments. He even thought that perhaps Alice wasn't so bad after all!

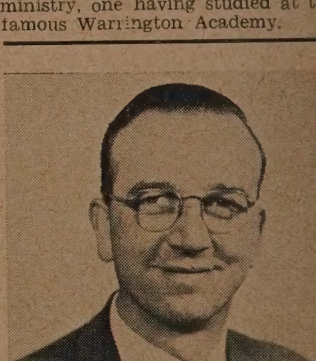
MARY HANKINSON MEMORIAL LECTURE

On April 13th, at the Annual General Meeting of the Physical Education Association to be held at Harrogate the second "Mary Hankinson Memorial Lecture" will be delivered by Professor W. H. G. Armytage, of Sheffield University. The inaugural lecture last year was delivered by Miss F. H. Gwilliam, O.B.E., Woman Education Adviser to the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

The late Miss Hankinson studied at the Dartford Physical Training College under the Ling System. In 1899 she founded in London th Ling Association and was fir Treasurer and later Honora Secretary. Some years ago th name was changed to the Physic Education Association.

Miss Hankinson left a legacy a the Trustees agreed to hold t Annual Lectureship.

She was born into a family whi was one that supported the eject ministers in 1662 and members ha been Trustees of Dean Row, Ha and Congleton Chapels. Thr members were ordained into c ministry, one having studied at t famous Warrington Academy.



UNITARIAN STALWART
Henry Tit of Great Huck

Henry Tittle's qualifications his present job—Warden of U tarian Holiday and Convalesc Homes at Great Hucklow, De shire — were revealed from earliest years as an enthusia Wolf Cub in the 2/29th Salf Scout Group, and later as

eenest, and possibly the bossiest, atrol leader in the Scout Group. is love for Hucklow began in Whit- eek holidays as a very small mem- er of the Primary Department. he youngest son in a large and onsequently poor family in an in- ustrial city, Henry made his mark a the Pendleton Unitarian Sunday chool, learning in his early teens o organise socials for the Inter- ediate Department, plays for the P.L., and week-end camps for couts' or Boys' Club. He also had remarkably sweet and clear treble oice until, like Humpty Dumpty, it roke, and all the king's horses . . .

Then came the 1939 War, and rriving at a suitable age, Pte. ittle donned his uniform, only to lossom with incredible rapidity in- o a formidable stalwart of the ilitary Police. (Patrons of Great ucklow might have guessed it!)

Returning on demobilisation to endleton and to his job with the tores department of the Man- hester Ship Canal Company, he hrew himself once more into the fe of his Church and Sunday chool, became School Superin- endent, joined the Manchester Lay reachers' Union, painted all the cenery for Pendleton pantomimes, nd put the Pendleton branch of he U.Y.P.L. firmly on its feet. Whether his Church had a minister r had to struggle without one, Henry Tittle would be planning for ts welfare, guiding its committee, lesigning — very beautifully — its osters, and keeping his fellow workers on their toes.

Then came the call for a Warden at the Homes. Henry Tittle flew away from his feathered nest with he Ship Canal Company, and at a big drop in remuneration devoted himself to the development of the Hucklow Homes for the service of Unitarian visitors of all ages. Ready to go anywhere, do anything, preach, shovel, paint, if it will help the Unitarian cause—that's Henry Tittle.

A FORWARD MOVEMENT CAMPAIGN MAKES HISTORY

The All Faiths' Service, the first to be held in Bolton, on Sunday, February 7th, in Bank Street Chapel, drew a congregation of some 400 fellow worshippers. (The Annual All Faiths' Service in London last May, held at Whitefield Memorial Chapel, drew a congregation of some 200). And it was not only the size of the congregation that made our service memorable and inspiring; the participation of the Imam, with the Muslim "Call to Prayer," the address of the Rabbi, and the devout accord of all who represented six great world faiths, resulted in a truly united act of worship. The Flaming Chalice was, in the wider context of differences of faith, the fitting symbol of that unity in the spirit. The Affirmation which we have found acceptable in the Bolton district was apparently accepted by all our visitors, it was made clear that nobody should recite it if he or she did not wish. The whole service was recorded and is available to any group that would like to hear it, especially the Rabbi's topical address on "A Religious Definition of Religion."

(From the Bank Street, Bolton, Calendar).

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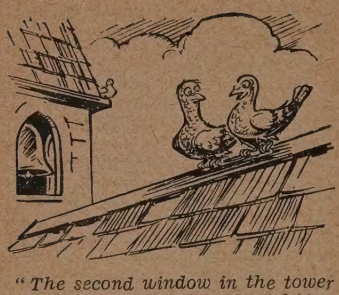


"The second window in the tower is ideal for ministerial oversight."

NEWS AND VIEWS

OVERSEAS CHURCHES

After assembling at Church one Sunday in February, members at CAPE TOWN went to the docks, "learning there how to talk with God through the sea and winds." The Bible and poetry were read.

Dr. Celia Thomerson, daughter of the Rev. E. H. Morris (Coventry) and her doctor husband are now both engaged in medical practice in AUCKLAND, where Mr. Morris was at one time Minister.

Students from STARR KING, the Californian Unitarian College, visited VANCOUVER at the end of March for their annual Spring trip. The President of the American Unitarian Association, Dr. Dana Greeley visited the Church in February.

HOME CHURCHES

The "Mancunitarian" made its first appearance in January. It is to be a "periodic bulletin on matters of moment and interest among the Churches of the Manchester District Association of Unitarian and Free Christian Churches." The "Mancunitarian" is duplicated and edited by the Rev. Maurice Bonner, Secretary of the M.D.A

The guest speaker at the M.D.A. A.G.M., on April 5th, at CROSS STREET Chapel, will be the Rev. Keir Murren, of Liverpool.

Students of Shenstone Trainin College for Teachers visite KIDDERMINSTER earlier in the yea The choir provided special musi The Men's League Annual Servi was conducted by Mr. Harold Steel

The Annual Meeting and Servi of the Midland Union was held WAVERLEY ROAD Church, Birmin ham, on Saturday, March 19th. Th preacher at the service in the afte noon was the Rev. A. W. Vallanc President of the G.A.

Rabbi Brown, the Senior Lee Jewish Rabbi, spoke to the LEE Priestley Fellowship on son aspects of the Jewish Faith March.

The preacher at the Annual Mee ing of the North and East Lanc shire Unitarian Mission, on Satu day, March 26th, at LANCASTER, w the Rev. K. Twinn. The speaker the evening meeting was Dr. Stanl J. Kennett.

The United Service of the Bu and District Unitarian Church was held at AINSWORTH on Sunda March 20th. The speaker was D Jeremy Goring, of Lewisham.

The annual report of WYTHE SHAWE says that "since the date the opening of the new building t average of 50 persons per week ha joined in the services."

The South East region of t U.Y.P.L. and the Social Servi Department of the G.A. recent organised a Conference to consid the report on World Tensions pr pared by the Department. T conference lasted from a Frid evening to a Sunday and speake were the Rev. Arthur Peacock, M F. W. Dalley, C.B.E., and M George Lowthian, M.B.E.

The North Wales Unitarian a Free Christian Society continues meet fortnightly, on Saturday afte noons at the Friends' Meeti House, COLWYN BAY. Rece speakers have been Franklyn Joh son, Neville Kenyon, Gwynne Roberts and Catherine Herford.

During the winter months M

uglas Webster, a student at C.M. has been delighting the etings of different organisations d groups with films of U.Y.P.L. ivities. One of his latest visits s to the Women's League at ATT where Mr. Webster is Joint stor.

The Youth Sunday Service at MSTON was conducted by the v. Dudley Richards. Several ople, young and not so young, velled from SWINTON. The ecial evening service at Swinton s conducted by Mr. Leonard ith, student at U.C.M. and son of e Rev. J. Harry Smith former nister at Swinton.

The South East Wales Unitarian ciety invited the President of the A. to a meeting in March. It was ped that the Lord Mayor of ansea would extend a Civic Welme to the President.

Dr. Jeremy Goring addressed a blic meeting at STAND on March st, upon "Unitarianism — a storian looks to the future." The est Lancashire Region U.Y.P.L. is lding a week-end conference at and on Saturday and Sunday, April 2nd and 3rd.

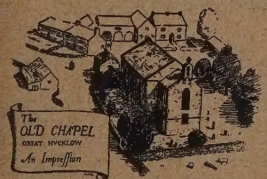
At BRIGHTON, the Rev. John Rowland, who is a member of the local Committee for Nuclear Disarmament, introduced to members of the congregation a series of films on the peaceful uses of atomic energy. The films were loaned for the occasion by the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority.

The LEWIN'S MEAD, Bristol, presentation of "By the Waters of Babylon" was performed at Essex Church on March 12th, and at St. Stephen's, Westminster, on the following day. Both performances were in aid of World Refugee Year.

A new hymn board, in memory of Mr. S. Hembury, has been dedicated at CREWKERNE. A new notice board is now in place.

In April and May special lectures on Unitarianism will herald the 250th Anniversary celebrations of SIDMOUTH.

The S.C.M. Federation Service was held at CROSS STREET, Manchester, in February. The preacher



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MASS COMMUNICATIONS AND THE SPIRIT OF MAN

by **C. O. Rhodes, M.A.**
(Essex Hall Lecture, 1959).
2/- (by post 2/2).

The Lindsey Press, Essex Hall, 1-6, Essex Street, Strand, London, W.C.2.

was the Rev. Cunliffe Jones of the Northern Congregational College.

A branch of the U.Y.P.L. has been formed at BEDFIELD, Suffolk.

The Rev. Dudley Richards preached at the Forward Movement Youth Sunday, on February 21st, at BANK STREET, Bolton.

MOSSLEY schoolroom has been redecorated—partly by professionals, partly by men of the congregation.

FLOWERY FIELD, Hyde, has been given a large brass Cross for the altar and a complete tape-recording equipment. The former is the gift of Mr. and Mrs. O. Muldoon, and the latter of the Bramall family.

DITCHLING has so far raised £47 for World Refugee Year—£21 from a Christmas Day collection. After twenty years' stalwart service the Secretary, Miss Helen K. Watts, is resigning.

A branch of the U.Y.P.L. has been formed at ILFORD. The Minister, the Rev. T. E. Dalton, is to be President of the London Sunday School Society for 1960.

"Open house for students" is held each week at the manse in EDINBURGH. The team that visits old people near the Church is being expanded.

Contributions for World Refugee Year at STOCKPORT have now exceeded £50. The Women's League at KNUTSFORD has collected £25 as well as a considerable amount of clothing.

Once again there is to be a Family Holiday Conference at GREAT HUCKLOW—this is not surprising after the very great success of the last one. This year's will be from July 30th to August 6th. An excellent programme has been arranged. Details may be obtained from your Minister or Church Secretary, or by writing direct to the conference secretary, Mrs. Amy Howarth, 51, Hurst Lane, Cumnor, Oxford.

THE INQUIRER

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